Office of the Massachusetts Attorney General

ATTN: Antitrust Division

One Ashburton Place, 18th floor

Boston, MA 02108

Dear Attorney General Coakley,

I am writing in response to your decision to allow the merger of Partners Hospital- South Shore Hospital, Hallmark Health Systems and 600 physicians while ignoring the Health Policy Commission (HPC) findings. The HPC findings suggested that this merger would increase costs for the citizens of the South Shore of Massachusetts by about \$25 million per year.

I wondered what your reasoning was to make this decision given the economic downturn of this country, which effects MA citizens on a day-to-day basis. I thought the decision was to be transparent, but I am unable to find out how the consolidation process was made and over seen by the HPC.

m. L. heuman

Sincerely,

Diana M. L. Newman, EDD RN

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